

DDPH Expands in Order to Reduce!

By Denise Cordeiro, DDPH Deputy Commander

Defense Distribution Depot Pearl Harbor, Hawaii (DDPH) has great weather and a great workforce. So what's the number one challenge? Trying to run an efficient logistics organization when you have more than thirty distinct operating and storage areas.

Since becoming a DLA command in 1999, footprint reduction at DDPH has been aggressively pursued, resulting in downsizing occupied space by more than 400,000 square feet. Now another important cornerstone has been laid in the continuing effort to become a more cost-effective organization.

On October 5, 2001, a ribbon cutting ceremony and traditional blessing were conducted to officially add building 1733 to the DDPH facilities configuration.

Before beginning its new life as a DDPH bulk storage warehouse and full service customer support area, building 1733 had been used by the Navy for several years to store frozen and chilled subsistence items. However, the implementation of Subsistence Prime Vendor in the Pearl Harbor area had rendered the warehouse useless to the Navy, even though building 1733 was a relatively new facility with secure high rise rack and bulk laydown storage space.

"DDC [Defense Distribution Center] developed a proposal that created a win-win situation for both DDC and the Navy," said DDPH Commander, CDR Robert Turner, SC, USN. "The basic plan was to modify the building so that instead of being vacant space, it could be put to use by DDPH as a bulk storage warehouse."

The modifications to building 1733 included deactivating and purging the cooling system, adding ventilation louvers and fans, and modifying the building's sprinkler systems. In addition to the warehouse upgrades, the office areas would be fully renovated to provide efficient and professional working and customer support spaces.

Approximately twelve months later, all the modifications, renovations and upgrades were completed. Warehouse and customer support personnel were relocated from the spaces they were sharing with the Navy, to the newly completed office spaces in building 1733. The Navy quickly began renovations of their own to reutilize the vacated space—a plan they had been working on for some time in order to improve their own operations and space utilization.

The bulk warehouse areas were immediately put to use for storage of forward positioned wholesale items. Additional material continues to be moved from outlying warehouses into the newly available storage spaces in building 1733.

Reallocated material handling equipment to support storage in the high rise rack system is currently in-transit. Once received, storage capabilities will be substantially increased. The end result? DDPH will be able to vacate several storage and operating areas that are hard to maintain and inefficient to operate, while centralizing processing in newer, safer, and more efficient storage structures.



Ribbon cutting at Bldg. 1733 with Louis Ellis, CDR Turner, and Iris Imae.

New office spaces and customer support area.



One of the warehouse high rise rack storage areas.

Renovated bulk storage area.

